

MIDVIEW WARD. Duchesne Stake, Duchesne Co., Utah, consists of a farming tract known as Midview, thus named because of being located about midway between Lake Fork and the Duchesne River. The center of the ward, or the townsite of Midview, is situated one mile north of the Duchesne River and three miles south of Lake Fork, about six miles in a straight line or eight miles by road west of Alton, and 15 miles north of Midview. The farms in Midview are mostly irrigated from the Duchesne Irrigation Company's canal, and a few farms also from the Redcap Ditch.

That part of the country now included in Midview was settled in 1905 soon after the Utah Indian Reservation was opened for settlement. Harold Carter was one of the first settlers. A Sunday School was organized at Midview in 1906. The saints in the Midview district were organized July 20, 1910, as a branch of the Church with Albert A. Burge as president and Elder H. E. Peterson as secretary. He presided until Sept. 21, 1913, when the Midview Branch was organized as a ward with Fred S. Munser as bishop. He was succeeded in 1915 by Alma A. Burge, or who on Jan. 5, 1930, was succeeded by Charles W. Smith, who acted Dec. 31, 1930. The Church membership on that date was 177 saints, including 35 children. The total population of the Midview Precinct was 180 in 1930.

MIDWAY. the second town of importance and size in Wasatch County, Utah, is situated west and north of the Provo River, in the northwest part of Provo Valley. Its inhabitants are nearly all farmers and stock-raisers, many of them being of Swiss origin. Midway has two fine L. D. S. chapels (modern meeting houses) and many fine residences surrounded by shade trees and orchards. The town is pleasantly situated on Snake Creek, 1 1/2 miles west of the Provo River, and 3 1/2 miles west of Hobbs City. Overlooking the town is situated near the east base of the Wasatch Mountains 35 miles south of Park City, and 42 miles south of Salt Lake City. The town is regularly surveyed into 27 live-acre blocks, the streets cross each other at right angles, 60 feet wide, with the exception of Main Street running east and west and those around the public square which are 6 rods wide. The soil in Midway is warmer than in any other part of Wasatch County on account of being so close to the warm springs which abound in that neighborhood. The settlement is especially adapted to the raising of wheat and other small grains

and also vegetables of various kinds. There are more shade and fruit trees at Midway than elsewhere in Provo Valley. Within the limits of the town there are two bathing resorts of hot springs, one situated a mile northwest of the center of the town, opened June 24, 1891. Nearly all the inhabitants are Latter-day Saints who are organized into two Bishop's Wards, namely the Midway 1st and the Midway 2nd wards. These two wards on Dec. 31, 1930, had a total membership of 822 members, including 132 children. The total population of the Midway Precinct was 921 in 1930, of which 745 resided in the town of Midway. In the vicinity of Midway there is a collection of thirty or forty water-tanks (called hot pots) that may well be classed among the curiosities of the country. They resemble the frustum of a cone being in all proportional, but of different sizes. The largest of these citizens known as the Big White Mound is about forty rods in circumference at its base and fifteen or twenty feet at the top rising from the level of the surrounding country to the height of forty feet and is entirely filled with water. Some of the other tanks are filled with water, and running over at the top in a small stream, while others are only partly filled with water and some are entirely dry.

Twenty Years Ago

Monday, March 12, 1917
Edward Payson Perry, father of Mayor W. Mont Perry, of Salt Lake City, died suddenly in Los Angeles last night.

There are now two ecclesiastical wards in Farmington, the division having been made yesterday with Elder O. F. Whitney officiating.

Forty Years Ago

Friday, March 12, 1898

The Utah state legislature "sanctioned" having passed the constitutional 60-day limit of its session. The appropriation bill had not yet been brought up in open session.

Bishop George Romney of the Twentieth Ward gave a complimentary dinner to the widows and orphans of that ward. Between 75 and 100 persons attended.

Sixty Years Ago

Monday March 12, 1877

Levi P. Luckey, the new secretary of Utah, accompanied by his family, arrived in Salt Lake City and will take over his new duties at once.

About 1947

ONE LIFE TO LIVE

Do you complain, because you have only one life to live? Shame on you! One life ought to be enough for any man.

One life can be anything and everything. It can be shabby, it can be rich. It can be a shining jewel or a ball of mud. It can be a stagnant pool or a clean, rippling stream. Burnt-out ashes or a flaming torch.

A career for a child or a bloody dagger. A friendly light in a window or a cruel pitfall. A blaze of glory or bitter failure.

One life is all you have, but it can be plenty. It can be an example of courage, or an example of despair.

It can be bold, it can be craven. It can be warm and fruitful, or cold and hard as selfishness. It can be generous, it can be envious.

It can be beautiful, it can be ugly. It can be patient and wise, reckless and idiotic. It can be a field of usefulness, or a waste of destruction.

One life, you say, is all you have. . . but who would want to move, then this one chance to be alive?

You hold this one life in your hand. It is like a glorious pearl that glows if you wear it close to your heart, but sickens and pales if you shut it away from you.

Wear that one life proudly, gallantly, and it is a joy to all who behold it. Wear it timidly, in fear that at any moment it might be snatched from you, and you will soon have no life at all—and you shall be a pathetic shell walking in the shape of a man.

This is your life, and no other man may take it from you! Your life in laughing infancy, your life in staid, war, manhood, and your life still in contemplating age. . . Be true to this one life, if you do, it will be more than enough.—Marshall Maslin

MIDWAY FIRST WARD. Wasatch Stake, Wasatch County, Utah, consists of the Latter-day Saints residing in the east part of Midway, the street running north and south east of the public square is the boundary line between the two wards.

The Midway Ward was divided into two wards, Feb. 8, 1903, namely, the Midway First Ward with Joseph W. Franson as Bishop, and the Midway Second Ward. Brother Franson was succeeded in 1906 by Henry T. Coleman, who in 1913 was succeeded by John Van Wagener Jr., who in 1926 was succeeded by Clark Bronson, who presided Dec. 31, 1930. On that date the Midway First Ward had 450 members, including 102 children.

MIDWAY SECOND WARD. Wasatch Stake, Wasatch County, Utah, consists of the Latter-day Saints residing in the west part of the town of Midway being separated from the Midway First Ward by the street running north and south east of the public square.

Jacob Probst was chosen as Bishop of the Midway Second Ward on Feb. 8, 1903, when the Midway Ward was divided into two wards. He presided Dec. 31, 1930, on which date the Midway Second ward had 572 members, including 50 children.

When Midway was divided in 1903, the old meetinghouse, valued at \$2,000, remained in the Second Ward, and is still used by the Saints of that ward as a house of worship. The Saints of the Second Ward assisted those of the First Ward in erecting a new meetinghouse elsewhere.

MILBURN WARD. North Sanpete Stake, Sanpete County, Utah, consists of the Latter-day Saints residing in the extreme north end of Sanpete Valley. The center of the ward is the townsite of Milburn situated on the so-called Dry Creek, and is a station on the Marysville Branch of the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railway, six miles north of Fairview, and 92 miles southeast of Salt Lake City.

The ward extends north to Indianola Ward in Thistle Valley, east to the county line, south to the Fairview Ward, and west to the mountain. About two-thirds of the inhabitants live on or adjacent to the townsite, while the remainder live on their respective farms on both sides of the Sanpete River.

Milburn is an outgrowth of the Fairview Ward and its site was for many years used as a herd ground by the people of Fairview. In 1863 there was only one house in that district of country now included in the Milburn Ward, but after that several new settlers moved in, and on April 20, 1890, the Saints who resided in that part of the country were separated from the Fairview Ward and organized into a new ward named Milburn.

When Milburn was organized in 1903, the old meetinghouse, valued at \$2,000, remained in the Second Ward, and is still used by the Saints of that ward as a house of art, who presided Dec. 31, 1930, when the ward had a Church membership of 106, including 59 children. The total population of the Milburn Precinct was 137 in 1930.

(MIDWAY—CONTINUED)

The water in these reservoirs is of different colors in some it is green, in others blue, and in others various other shades. The famous rattlesnake den is also in this vicinity. In its formation it partakes of the nature of the citizens named, being 15 or 20 rods in circumference at its base, and 25 feet high with a dry reservoir at the top. The mound is formed of shell rock, full of reptiles and fissures, which furnish habitations for an innumerable number of rattlesnakes. These reptiles are remarkable for staying at home, being seldom seen over a mile from their den. Very often during the summer season the rocks seem to be alive with them and fifty or more can sometimes be seen crawling together in the trail near the foot of the mound, and in other places near their den.

The first settlers on Snake Creek arrived in the spring of 1859. Among them were Jesse McCarrill, Benjamin Mark Smith and Sidney Harmon. Epiphron, McCarrill and Smith built the first houses on the east side of the creek, near the place where Van Wagener afterwards built his mill. Other pioneers and four families spent the winter of 1859-1860 in that part of Provo Valley now included in the Midway Ward. In the spring of 1859 Father Mills came up from Provo Valley, wheeling his tools on a wheelbarrow, and located a mill site on Snake Creek, where Mount City afterwards was built. At that time the country was infested with bears to such an extent that Father Mills found it necessary to lock himself up in a box at night to protect himself against the bears and snakes. He connected a frame-work between the mouth of Snake Creek and White Pine Canyon, but mainly at two points subsequently named, Midway and Mount City. The first of these was on Snake Creek, and the second was on the north of the present Midway townsite, or the upper settlement, was situated on both sides of Snake Creek immediately below the junction of that stream with White Pine Creek, or about

two miles above the present Millway. In 1861 other settlers arrived in Provo Valley, some of whom located on Snake Creek, and the upper settlement soon became considerably the largest. John H. Van Wagener finished the first flouring mill ever built in Provo Valley that year. It was erected on Snake Creek in the lower settlement, Sidney H. Epiphron was appointed president to reside over the lower settlement, which included the mill and the settlers residing at different points above the same. The lower settlement had about twenty families in 1864. The presiding Elder in each of the two settlements acted under the direction of Joseph S. Murdock of Hatch. Log meeting houses were built in both settlements, the one at Mount City being erected in 1862, and the one in the lower settlement in 1864. A post office was established at Midway in 1865. In 1866, when the Indians in the southern part of Utah, went on the war-path, the Saints on Snake Creek in Provo Valley were advised to move together on the present site of Midway, breaking up the both Mount City above and the original Midway below. Hence the present townsite of Midway was selected and called Midway. The place selected was a spot unfit for farming, it being a sort of rocky ledge of limestone formation, created by nature through the agency of warm water. When the people of Mount City and the original Midway moved together, they erected their houses and stables (which they generally moved from their former locations) on the rocky flat in front of the meeting house and other public buildings were erected. Sidney H. Epiphron presided at the beginning. He was succeeded in 1870 by Henry S. Alexander, who presided until 1877, when the Midway Branch was organized as a regular Bishop's Ward with David Van Wagener as Bishop. He was succeeded in 1892 by John Watkins, who died Dec. 23, 1902 after which Alvin J. Alexander took temporary charge of the ward until Feb. 8, 1903, when Midway was divided into two wards, namely the Midway First and the Midway Second Ward.